

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1967

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 2630

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LIMDIS

AF FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ACOM, GH

SUBJ: WATTS BASE

REF: (A)STATE 84031, (B) ACCRA 2596

1. I AM DISTRESSED BY REF A WHICH IMPLIES THAT NEITHER I NOR MY STAFF HAVE PURSUED THE WATTS BASE QUESTION WITH DILIGENCE AND QUESTION "INFORMAL INFORMATION". I CAN ONLY ASSUME REF A WAS NOT CLEARED WITH AF. I APPRECIATE THE URGENCY OF A WATTS DECISION IN DEPARTMENTAL PLANS AND SHARE DEPARTMENT'S SENSE OF IMPATIENCE THAT GOG HAS NOT YET REACHED A FAVORABLE DECISION.

2. THE WATTS BASE REQUEST HAS BEEN A MATTER OF PRIME CONCERN TO ME SINCE MY ARRIVAL AT POST. I HAVE DISCUSSED THE SUBJECT WITH SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE GOG, MOST RECENTLY AS INDICATED REF B WITH SENIOR MOST MEMBER SMC EXCEPTIKN ACHEAMPONG. I WILL CERTAINLY SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH THE LATTER IF AND WHEN SUCH A MEETING APPEARS USEFUL. PLEASE REST ASSURED THAT I HAVE ACCEPTED FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE TACTICS EMPLOYED IN OUR PROPOSAL. I ALSO HAVE EXERCISED FULL AUTHORITY IN CARRYING OUT THIS RESPONSIBILITY AND IN DECIDING THE
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TACTICS TO BE FOLLOWED. IN EXERCISE OF THIS RESPONSIBILITY I HAVE DELEGATED CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE TASK TO POL-BAXTER, DCM-LINEHAN, AND RCO-CALLIHAN, AMONG OTHERS, I HAVE FULL CONFIDENCE IN THE CAPABILITIES OF THIS TEAM BOTH COLLECTIVELY AND FOR THEIR RESEPTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. DEPARTMENT'S IMPATIENCE CONCERNING THE DELAY SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO BRING INTO QUESTION THE EFFORTS OF ANY SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL. ALTHOUGH I CALL UPON TEAM MEMBERS FOR VARIOUS TASKS AND CUSTOMARILY AND CANDIDLY GIVE MY SUGGESTINS AND CRITIQUES, I HAVE NOT DELEGATED THE FINAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE RESULT.

4. I WANT TO ASSURE YOU PERSONALLY THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO OUR BEST FOR WATTS.
BLACK

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